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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH  
DE RUEHKO #2290 2330144  
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P 200144Z AUG 08  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6704  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAA/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY  
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 9474  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 1836  
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 7625  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 0054  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 3213  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 4981  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2493  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0971  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1309  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 002290

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;  
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;  
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;  
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - PAKISTAN

11. LEAD STORIES: Front-page items on Wednesday morning included a NATO foreign ministerial on Tuesday, during which members expressed concern about Russia's continued military operations in Georgia.

12. "First Step Toward Democracy" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (8/20): "Pakistani President Musharraf has resigned. The U.S. might need to review its strategy for the war on terrorism. We hope that this political turmoil will not expand instability in Asia but instead will create momentum for Pakistan to make an initial step toward democracy."

13. "No Retreat from War on Terrorism" The conservative Sankei ran an editorial stating (8/20): "...It is worrisome that the resignation of Musharraf, who had taken a pro-U.S. policy and wielded strong power in the war on terrorism since 9/11, could affect the antiterrorism campaign of the international community.... Following the resignation of the president of Pakistan, which has been on the frontline in the war on terrorism, the international community needs to review its strategy in the antiterrorism campaign and unite its collective power again.... Pakistan is the only Muslim nuclear power. Political instability could cause anxiety about its control of its nuclear arms. The transfer of nuclear weapons to terrorists is something that should be prevented by any means necessary."

SCHIEFFER